



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

It is hardly necessary to state that in so far as views on evolution are expressed they are essentially de Vriesian and with the acceptance of the validity of de Vries's conclusions concerning discontinuity, there is the suggestion of the physico-chemical nature of discontinuity in evolutionary transformations.

The Columbia University Biological Series is so familiar to naturalists that comment upon the attractiveness of the volume is quite superfluous and we may simply say that the general scientific public is to be congratulated on having in a condensed form the point of view and chief results of the school of biologists of which Professor Loeb is our best known advocate.

J. A. HARRIS

ZOÖLOGY

Capture of the Salamander, Autodax lugubris, at Los Angeles, Cal.

— One of the points of interest concerning the genus *Autodax* is its extremely limited range. The taking of a specimen of *A. lugubris* in Los Angeles, Cal., a locality at a considerable distance from what has heretofore been considered the center of its distribution, seems of sufficient importance, therefore, to justify this note on the subject.

In a previous paper on the species by Professor Ritter and myself (*Amer. Nat.*, vol. 33, pp. 691-704, 1899), mention is made of the distribution of the genus as follows: "*Autodax* is a genus of salamanders confined, according to our present knowledge, to western North America and almost entirely to California." Cope (*U. S. Nat. Mus.*, bull. 34) states that "no species has yet been found east of the Pacific coast region." He describes the three species of the genus from specimens in the U. S. National Museum which are distributed as follows:—

16 specimens,	Petaluma, Cal.	Lat. 38° 15' N.
5 "	Farallone Is.	37° 40' "
10 "	San Francisco	37° 40' "
4 "	Berkeley	37° 40' "
7 "	Monterey	36° 45' "
1 "	Fort Tejon	35° 0' "

Range 3° 15'

A. ferreus, 1 specimen, Ft. Umpqua, Ore.

A. iëcanus, 2 specimens, Baird, Cal., Lat. 40° 50' N.

The range of *A. iëcanus* was extended by Van Denburgh (*Proc. Cal. Acad. Sci.*, n. s., vol. 5, pp. 776-778, 1895) southward to Los Gatos, Cal., Lat. 37° 10' N. Range, 3° 10'.

Omitting the little known *A. ferreus*, the others of the genus have a range in central California of very narrow limits. Cope sums up the evidence for the better known *A. lugubris* as follows: "The range of this species is limited, embracing only middle California."

The observations of Professor Ritter and myself (*Amer. Nat.*, vol. 33, pp. 691-704, 1899; vol. 37, pp. 883-886, 1903) show its comparative abundance in the whole San Francisco Bay region. In fact, Monterey and Fort Tejon are the only localities outside the bay region from which it has previously been recorded. The remarkable occurrence on the rocky Farallone Island 30 miles off shore was also re-established by a party from the University of California under Professor Torrey in 1903.

The specimen taken in Los Angeles, Lat. 33° 40' N., extends the range a degree southward thus increasing the previously known range by almost 33%. The occurrence is further striking in that there is a decided climatic difference between this locality and the bay region. The temperature averages of the bay region range from 52° to 60° and those of the Los Angeles region from 60° to 68°. The low average humidity of the Los Angeles region makes this difference even more pronounced. Again, the two localities are separated by barriers of desert and mountain ranges running at right angles to the coast line, a combination of conditions which suffices to isolate several subspecies of birds in the Los Angeles region by checking the north and south diffusion. *A. lugubris* seems, then, to be less timorous than we had at first thought.

The Los Angeles specimen was taken on March 18 of this year, which date is in the midst of the rainy season. The animal was found under a rotten log in just such surroundings as one would expect to find the species in the bay region. The appearance is that of a typical specimen of the third year except that the lemon yellow spots are slightly more numerous than in the majority of specimens from the bay region. Only one specimen was taken but the fact is of minor significance as the species is a bit erratic in its distribution in the bay region.

LOYE HOLMES MILLER